

REMARKS

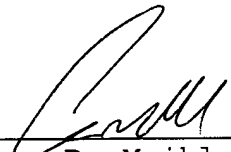
This change is meant to correct a typographical error by inserting the U.S. patent which corresponds to the cited Japanese patent and in no way adds new matter.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By  _____
Andrew D. Meikle, #32,868

ADM/csm
0171-1038P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000